

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

Please replace the first full sentence on page one of the specification with the following sentence.

Q₁ This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/240,029, filed on January 29, 1999, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,153,432.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 6 to read as follows:

Q₂ sub B1 6. A method comprising:

(i) obtaining a greater than 90% enriched population of isolated differentiated human preadipocytes,

(ii) and identifying a protein or peptide secreted by the enriched population.

Q₃ 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the differentiation is achieved in a medium that comprises a factor selected from the group consisting of glucose, isobutylmethylxanthine, insulin, an insulin analogue, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma agonist, and a retinoid X receptor agonist.

8. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the factor is a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma agonist.

9. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the factor is a retinoid X receptor agonist.

Q₄ sub B2 10. (new) The method of claim 6, wherein the preadipocyte is plated at a density of about 25,000 to 30,000 cells/cm².